(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the capital expenditure and enhance gas output from the field; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Commercial product of gas @ 40 MMSCMD from D-6 discovery in KG basin is scheduled to commence from June, 2008 with a capital expenditure of US$ 2.47 billion as per approved development plan.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Consortium of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and Niko has submitted addendum to the development plan which envisages increase in production from 40 to 80 MMSCMD and increased in capital expenditure from US$ 2.47 billion to 8.84 Billion.

Russia's participation in Iran Pipeline Project

2220. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the visit to Russia the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas took up the issue of increased cooperation between Indian oil companies and their Russian counterparts;

(b) if so, whether Russian Minister assured him of a favourable consideration of the Indian interest;

(c) whether Russia has agreed to be a part of Iran Pipeline Project and has proposed to participate in future talks between Indo-Pak-Iran;

(d) if so, whether all the three countries have agreed for participation of Russia in the Project; and

(e) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. During the visit of Minister of Petroluem and Natural Gas to Moscow to participate in the

International Energy Week-Moscow Energy Dialogue, on 30.10.2006, discussions were held with Minister of Energy and Industry, Russian Federation on enhancing mutual cooperation between the Indian oil companies and their Russian counterparts.

(b) The Minister of Energy and Industry of Russian Federation indicated that commercial considerations would prevail in choosing the foreign companies in oil and gas projects.

(c) to (e) Russia has expressed interest in Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) pipeline to enter as Operator and offer its experience. However, various aspects of the IPI project are being discussed in bilateral and trilateral fora, and a final decision on participation of the Russian company in the project has not yet been taken.

Appointment of executives in oil companies

2221. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of executives in public sector oil companies as on date, company-wise;

(b) the number of executives who have retired in natural course, voluntarily retired and resigned from services during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, company-wise; and

(c) the number of executives appointed and promoted from non-executives during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The details of number of executives, the number of executives who have retired in natural course, voluntarily retired and resigned from services during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 in the major public sector oil companies and the number of executives appointed and promoted from non-executives during the same period is given in the Statement.